future along the National Waterway No. 1, in view of outstepping demand of oil; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Inland Water Transport Corporation has been engaged in inland transportation and the cargo movements effected by them has increased from 75,000 M.T. in 1981-82 to 3,20,000 M.T. in 1986-87. On the National Waterway No. 1, the CIWTC are currently operating river services between Haldia/ Calcutta and Farakka and the services upto Patna are being extended. The services between Patna and Allahabad could be started after completition ot ongoing Pilot Project.

(c) Does not arise.

Speed Post Service in West Bengal

1780. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2909 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th August, 1987 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Speed Post Service from more areas of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, what are the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to introduce Speed Post Service from more areas of West Bengal.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to a) above.

Rail Yatri Niwas at Howrah

1781. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of proposed Rail Yatri Niwas at Howrah in West Bengal has been started;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work is likely to be completed by March, 1989.

Doubling and Extension of Howrah-Tarakeshwar Rail Line

1782. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Howrah-Tarakeshwar rail line is in need of doubling and extension upto Arambagh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take up the work in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Double rail line already exists between Howrah and Kamarkundu. Survey for augmentation of line capacity on Seoraphuli-Kamarkundu-Tarakeshwar Section is in progress. No decision can be taken till the survey is completed and the report examined. There is no proposal at present for extension of rail line upto Arambagh in view of constraint of resources and heavy commitments in hand.

Shortage of passenger coaches

1783. SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI NARAYAN KAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of passenger coaches in the country;